

**City of Franklin Common Council
Regular Meeting Minutes
June 16, 2014**

The regular meeting of the Common Council of the City of Franklin, Indiana was called to order at 6:30 p.m. at City Hall, 70 E. Monroe Street, with Mayor Joseph E. McGuinness presiding. Council members Joseph Abban, Joseph Ault, Kenneth Austin, Stephen Barnett, Robert Henderson, Stephen Hougland, and Richard Wertz answered roll call. Clerk-Treasurer Janet P. Alexander, Records Clerk Kathy Cragen, City Attorney Lynnette Gray were also present.

Mayor McGuinness opened the meeting and asked the Clerk-Treasurer to call the roll. Mayor McGuinness led the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance. Councilor Hougland lead a brief invocation.

Announcements & Presentations

There were no announcements & presentations.

Consent Agenda

Mayor McGuinness presented the consent agenda for approval.

- Approval of the June 2, 2014 Common Council Minutes

Council President Barnett made a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented, seconded by Councilor Austin. A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried.

Old Business

Council President Barnett made a motion to read all old business by title only, seconded by Councilor Austin. A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried.

Public Hearing(s)

Common Council Budgetary Ordinance No.: 14-07 An Additional Appropriation From Drug Free Johnson Grant Fund to Supplies 230-003-200 in the amount of \$320.36, and to Services 230-003-300 in the amount of \$1,079.64 – Mayor McGuinness read the title, and told the council that this did not get advertised properly so it is being brought back tonight for approval. The Mayor opened the floor for a public hearing, no one asked to speak. Council President Barnett made a motion to approve, seconded by Councilor Austin. A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried.

Common Council Ordinance No.: 14-04 Sidewalk Seating & Merchandising Encroachments –

Mayor McGuinness read the title, and opened the floor for public hearing. No one asked to speak. Senior Planner Myers came forward stating this was introduced two weeks ago, and is now ready for approval. A discussion was held. Councilor Austin made a motion to approve, seconded by Council President Barnett. A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried.

New Business

Council President Barnett made a motion to read all new business by title only, seconded by Councilor Austin. A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried.

Introductions

Common Council Budgetary Resolution No.: 14-03 Authorizing a Transfer in Rainy Day Fund Budget in the amount of \$45,000.00 from 200 to 400 – Mayor McGuinness read the title, and gave an overview of this request. A discussion was held. Council President Barnett made a motion to approve, seconded by Councilor Austin. A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried.

Common Council Budgetary Ordinance No.: 14-08 An Ordinance Repealing and Replacing Budgetary Ordinance 13-13 Fixing and Authorizing the Payment of Certain Salaries of Appointed Officers and Employees of The City of Franklin, Indiana for Year 2014 (Civil City) - Mayor McGuinness explained that this updated salary ordinance is needed to add a new position titled Fleet Maintenance Director/Purchasing Agent. The Mayor explained there was money left in the Street Commissioner's line item since the current Commissioner works part time. He also stated that there is money available in the budget because the Commissioner has determined that he does not need as many full time workers as budgeted. The Mayor stated that other nearby communities including Shelbyville, Columbus, and Greenwood employ a Fleet Maintenance Director. He explained that the person in this role will keep track of all city vehicles maintenance requirements using a computer program as well as performing vehicle maintenance on city vehicles which he believes will save taxpayer money. A discussion was held. Introduced. A public hearing on this proposed ordinance will be held during the next regular meeting on July 7, 2014.

Common Council Resolution No.: 14-07 A Resolution Waiving Non-Compliance with Respect to Amcor Rigid Plastic's Tax Abatement Compliance Requirements - Community Development Director Linke came forward and read a request from Amcor Rigid Plastic. Ms. Linke stated that the company is requesting a waiver of non-compliance on their tax abatement. Ms. Linke stated that they have 174 employees and are doing 13.4 million a year in business. Ms. Linke also stated that the Economic Development Commission (EDC) forwarded this request to the Council with a favorable recommendation. A discussion was held. Council President Barnett made a motion to approve, seconded by Councilor Austin. A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried.

Common Council Resolution No.: 14-08 Authorizing the Use of Certain Credit Card Accounts - Adding An Additional Card for Mayor's Office - Mayor McGuinness stated that he needed an additional credit card for his use by his Communications Director Ms. Angie Longtin with a limit of \$5,000. A discussion was held. Council President Barnett made a motion to approve, seconded by Councilor Abban. Councilor Henderson recused himself from voting since he works at Horizon Bank where the credit cards are issued from. A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried.

Other Business

Police Department 12 - Hour Shift Conversion Proposal - Police Chief Tim O'Sullivan explained that several police officers had suggested that the department consider switching from the eight (8) hour shift model to a twelve (12) hour shift. The suggestion was put to a vote by the officers and 29 officers voted in favor and 13 voted against. Chief O'Sullivan showed the Council a power point presentation which outlined the pros and cons of this proposal.

The advantages list for the City were: more hours worked; more officers on the beat daily; reduced overtime expenses; and more police coverage city wide around the clock. The advantages for the police officers included: a set schedule; every other weekend off; improvement in officer morale; and increased number of officers on duty which will provide additional backup and be a plus for officer safety.

The drawbacks for the City include additional upfront costs for the promotion of one patrol officer to sergeant. The drawbacks for the police officers include longer work days, more hours worked overall, potential fatigue, loss of free time for part-time work, less time for family during scheduled work period.

Chief O'Sullivan stated that Greenwood, Whiteland, and the Johnson County Sheriff's Department are all working 12 hour shifts. He explained that if approved he would begin the work to edit policies and procedures with the intention to convert at the end of the 13th pay period December 27, 2014. He will include the additional monies in his 2015 budget proposal. A discussion was held. Council President Barnett made a motion to approve and send this proposal back to the Board of Public Works and Safety for final approval, seconded by Councilor Austin. A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried.

2015 Budget Adoption Calendar; Council Assignments – Mayor McGuinness stated that the adoption hearing for the 2015 Budget ordinance will be held during the regular meeting October 6, 2014. The advertised public hearing will be held during the regular meeting September 15. The Mayor stated that submittal of the budget to Johnson County for non binding review is September 2, 2014. The Mayor McGuinness recommended that the Council retain the budget assignments given last year which were: Councilor Abban was assigned to Planning & Community Development; Councilor Ault – the Fire Department; Councilor Austin – the Street Department; Council President Barnett – the Police Department; Councilor Henderson - Parks Department; Councilor Hougland – the Mayor, City Hall & Clerk-Treasurer's office; Councilor Wertz – the Board of Works budget and finally on behalf of the BOW; Mr. Swinehamer will be asked to review the Department of Public Works, MS4 & Sewer Billing. A discussion was held.

Council Comments

Councilor Henderson stated that there would be a joint meeting between City of Franklin Redevelopment Commission (RDC), and City of Greenwood Redevelopment Commission (RDC) Wednesday, June 18 at Beeson Hall. The public is invited.

Councilor Wertz stated there would be a special Redevelopment Commission (RDC) meeting tomorrow morning at 8:00 a.m. to discuss the proposed sale of 55 W. Madison St., to Old Post Brew Pub.

Clerk-Treasurer Alexander stated that Indiana Code states that she is required to act as the treasurer of the Redevelopment Commission but that this will not change anything because she has been performing the duties of treasurer for the RDC since taking office. Ms. Alexander explained that there is a requirement that she provide a report to Council before July 1st regarding RDC finances. She explained that she spoke with officials from the Department of Local Government Finance (DLGF) and learned that the reporting year is 2013. She also said that Community Development Director Linke and RDC Attorney Rob H. Schafstall and she meet last week and have agreed to meet periodically to make sure they are complying with all of the new reporting rules set by the legislature. Ms. Alexander stated that a report will be received via e-mail prior to the July 7 meeting.

Council President Barnett stated that others are asserting that he is against the sale of 55 W. Madison but he said that this is not the case. He said he supports the sale if funding is there for the proposal of the Brew Pub at this location. He said that he thinks that the members of the RDC are rushing the sale to s to beat the July 1st deadline because on that date the Council must approve all projects. Councilor Abban said that he thinks they should take their time and make the right decision regarding this issue. Councilor Henderson who is also an RDC member stated that the July 1 deadline has not been a factor in their reasoning. He stated that the RDC has been working on this project for some time trying to initiate an investment in this building. Councilor Henderson stated that the entity is a real estate LLC, and they have been accumulating investment capital which will be set aside in an escrow account. The building would be sold for \$10,000, and the RDC would have a schedule to invest \$260,000 to improve this building and that the mortgage would not be released until all agreements have been met. A discussion was held.

Mayor McGuinness paused to reflect on the tragic accident that took place at the Blue River Dam in Edinburgh two weeks ago where Jason Moran, a Franklin High School student drowned and two other Franklin High School students were hospitalized and then one, Michael Chadbourne subsequently passed away. He thanked Communications Director Angie Longtin, the Fire Chief and the members of the Franklin Fire Department, The Chief and the officers of the Franklin Police Department, and the employees of the Franklin Parks Department for their help preparing for the enormous memorial services held for Jason Moran and Michael Chadbourne. The Mayor also stated that he knew Fire Chief Henderson stayed at the dam until Jason Moran's body was found. He said that although this was a very difficult time for the community he was glad that the community came together to support these grieving families.

Resident John Wales came forward to thank everyone involved in the attempted rescue and to recognize the efforts of the Franklin School System. Mr. Wales also thanked the Mayor and the community and the kids for honoring these young people.

Adjournment

As there was no further business to come before the Common Council, a motion and a second were made to adjourn at 7:44 p.m. The next regular meeting will be held Monday, July 7, 2014 at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet P. Alexander, Clerk-Treasurer
Enrolled: 6-30-14

Joseph McGuinness, Mayor

Attest:

Janet P. Alexander, Clerk-Treasurer